

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/605,466

Examiner

Jinsong Hu

Applicant(s)

YAMAGISHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed on 12/19/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-10, 12-20, 22-30 and 32, now as 1-26.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears bellow. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as proved by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Alison Schwartz (Reg. No. 43,863) on March 16, 2006.

In the Claims:

- (a) Cancel claims 11, 21 and 31.
- (b) Amend claims 12-13, 20, 22-24 and 32 as the following:

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) ~~The transmitting method as set forth in claim 11, wherein the transmitting method is a~~ A method for transmitting a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing locations of contents data, the method comprising the steps of:

managing a hierarchical structure of a directory composed of a container entry and a leaf entry, a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry being disposed in the immediately lower hierarchical level of a container entry, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof;

detecting a change of the hierarchical structure of the directory managed at the managing step and obtaining first difference information and second difference information corresponding to the detected result, the first difference

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information being the difference of container entries, the second difference information being the difference of leaf entries; [and]

transmitting said first difference information at first predetermined time period;

transmitting said second difference information at second predetermined time period; and

transmitting third difference information for reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory at a **third** predetermined time period ~~along with the first difference information and the second difference information,~~ wherein the **third** predetermined time period is variably designated corresponding to the operating state information of a receiving side.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A receiving apparatus for receiving a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing the locations of contents data that is transmitted, comprising:

receiving means for receiving first difference information **transmitted at first predetermined time period**, second difference information **transmitted at second predetermined time period**, and third difference information **transmitted at a third predetermined time period variably designated in accordance with operating state information collected by monitoring operating states of the receiving means**, the first difference information being obtained by detecting a change of container entries, the second difference information being obtained by detecting a change of leaf entries, the directory being composed of container entries and leaf entries, a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, the third difference information being transmitted at a predetermined time period, the third difference information being capable of reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory; and

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managing means for managing the hierarchical structure of the directory formed corresponding to the first difference information, the second difference information, and the third difference information received by said receiving means;

~~wherein local operating state information of the receiving apparatus is monitored and transmitted.~~

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) A receiving method for receiving a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing the locations of contents data that is transmitted, comprising the steps of:

receiving first difference information **transmitted at first predetermined time period**, second difference information **transmitted at second predetermined time period**, and third difference information **transmitted at a third predetermined time period variably designated in accordance with operating state information collected by monitoring operating states of the receiving means**, the first difference information being obtained by detecting a change of container entries, the second difference information being obtained by detecting a change of leaf entries, the directory being composed of container entries and leaf entries, a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, the third difference information being transmitted at a predetermined time period, the third difference information being capable of reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory; and

managing the hierarchical structure of the directory formed corresponding to the first difference information, the second difference information, and the third difference information received at the receiving step;

~~wherein local operating state information of the receiving apparatus is monitored and transmitted.~~

Claim 22. (Currently Amended) The transmitting and receiving system as set forth in claim [21] 24, wherein the transmission timing is a time zone in which the update information is transmitted.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) The transmitting and receiving system as set forth in claim [21] 24, wherein the transmission timing is a time period of which the update information is transmitted the plurality number of times.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) [The] A transmitting and receiving system as set forth in claim 21,

~~wherein the transmitting and receiving system is a system for transmitting~~
a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing locations of contents data and receiving the transmitted hierarchical structure, comprising:

first managing means for managing a hierarchical structure of a directory composed of a container entry and a leaf entry, a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry being disposed in the immediately lower hierarchical level of a container entry, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof;

detecting means for detecting a change of the hierarchical structure of the directory managed by said first managing means and obtaining first difference information and second difference information corresponding to the detected result, the first difference information being the difference of container entries corresponding to the detected result, the second difference information being the difference of leaf entries;

first transmitting means for transmitting said first difference information at first predetermined time period;

second transmitting means for transmitting said second difference information at second predetermined time period;

third transmitting means for transmitting third difference information for reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory at a third predetermined time period ~~along with the first difference information and the second difference information;~~

receiving means for receiving the first difference information, the second difference information, and the third difference information transmitted by said third transmitting means; and

second managing means for managing the hierarchical structure of the directory formed corresponding to the first difference information, the second difference information, and the third difference information received by said receiving means;

wherein the third predetermined time period is variably designated corresponding to the operating state information of a receiving side that receives the third difference information transmitted by said third transmitting means.

Claim 32. (Currently Amended) A [The] transmitting and receiving method as ~~set forth in claim 31,~~

~~wherein the transmitting and receiving method is a method for transmitting~~ a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing locations of contents data and receiving the transmitted hierarchical structure, the method comprising the steps of:

managing a hierarchical structure of a directory composed of a container entry and a leaf entry, a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry being disposed in the immediately lower hierarchical level of a container entry, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof;

detecting a change of the hierarchical structure of the directory managed at the first managing step and obtaining first difference information and second difference information corresponding to the detected result, the first difference

information being the difference of container entries corresponding to the detected result, the second difference information being the difference of leaf entries;

transmitting said first difference information at first predetermined time period;

transmitting said second difference information at second predetermined time period;

transmitting third difference information for reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory at a third predetermined time period ~~along with the first difference information and the second difference information;~~

receiving the first difference information, the second difference information, and the third difference information transmitted at the third transmitting step; and

managing the hierarchical structure of the directory formed corresponding to the first difference information, the second difference information, and the third difference information received at the receiving step,

wherein the third predetermined time period is variably designated corresponding to the operating state information of a receiving side that receives the third difference information transmitted at the third transmitting step.

Reasons for allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's claimed invention distinguished over the prior art for the following reasons. The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because none of the references, either alone or in combination, discloses or renders obvious the system comprises of a transmitting device for transmitting a hierarchical structure of a directory for hierarchically managing locations of contents data, comprising of managing means

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for managing a hierarchical structure of a directory composed of a container entry and a leaf entry, a container entry containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof, a leaf entry being disposed in the immediately lower hierarchical level of a container entry, a leaf entry not containing information in the immediately lower hierarchical level thereof; detecting means for detecting a change of the hierarchical structure of the directory managed by said managing means and obtaining first difference information and second difference information corresponding to the detected result, the first difference information being the difference of container entries, the second difference information being the difference of leaf entries; and first transmitting means for transmitting said first difference information at first predetermined time cyclically; second transmitting means for transmitting said second difference information at second predetermined time cyclically; and third transmitting means for transmitting third difference information for reproducing the hierarchical structure of the directory at a third predetermined time period; wherein said third predetermined time period is variably designated in accordance with operating state information collected by monitoring operating states of at least one of a receiving side.

Conclusion

4. Any comments considering necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinsong Hu whose telephone number is (571) 272-3965.


The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jinsong Hu

March 16, 2006


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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